The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Brave men ought not to be cast down by adversity.—Italicus.

WHOLE NO. 983. | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1930. | FRANK MORRISON, Secretary | VOL. 19, NO. 48.

Corporation Profits Soar; Wages Should Be Raised

Corporation profits, reported by these concerns and the Federal Government, should stir the imagination of workers.

In its latest "Monthly Survey of Business," the A. F. of L. shows that from 1922 to 1929, according to Government reports, the combined profits of all corporations in this country nearly doubled. Profits were $5,183,000,000 in 1922 and $7,538,000,000 in 1927. Profits in 1929, it is estimated, will total $9,900,000,000, or 91 per cent over 1922.

While profits were soaring in these years, wages in manufacturing advanced but 19 per cent. Gains by railroad workers were less.

The steel trust quietly announces that profits last year total $258,659,889—more than a quarter of a billion dollars. This smashes all peace-time records.

The R. J. Reynolds Company, one of the "cigarette kings," reports a profit last year of $32,210,000, as compared with $29,080,000 the previous year.

The Government's preliminary report on income tax returns for last year shows that the number of millionaires increased from 290 in 1927 to 496 the following year.

Workers must keep in mind the difference between wages and profits. The worker uses wages to buy food, clothing and shelter. The upkeep of his home, education of children, maintenance of family and uncertain provision for unemployment, sickness and old age are included.

When a corporation figures profits, this does not mean total amount received, as with wages. The corporation first marks off all costs. These include liberal amounts for depreciation, replacement, interest, sinking funds, taxes, advertising, wages paid, princely salaries to officials and managers, lawyers' fees, welfare work, private detectives, all strikebreaking ventures, etc.

After skilled accountants exhaust their ingenuity in disposing of income, the balance, generally speaking, is called "profits."

It is against human nature to expect these corporations to boast of their earnings. That would mean higher wages, excess profit taxes and inheritance taxes. A "poor mouth" is the invariable rule.

Reports of huge profits are found in obscure corners of the financial section of a comparatively few newspapers, away from the eyes of workers who often do not appreciate their significance.

They are being watched, however, by the A. F. of L., and that organization says in its latest "Survey of Business":

"Hugh increases in corporation profits show that American firms have the means to raise wages."

There is but one way to secure a higher wage. To win that objective workers must organize and do their own thinking. They should not accept the views of so-called economists who strive to maintain the status quo.

If these profits are unchallenged a greater concentration of wealth and the pauperization of additional workers is inevitable.

STEEL TRUST PROFITS IS PEACE TIME RECORD

New York, Feb. 8.—The steel trust's profits last year aggregated $258,659,889.

Even hard-boiled Wall Street, that accepts huge net earnings as a matter of course, was surprised at these figures, which have been surpassed in only two previous years, 1916 and 1917, when World War business was taxing the capacity of the country's steel mills.

The trust's report of various quarters during the year shows that last fall's slump in the stock market was not unexpected by close observers. Earnings for the last quarter—October, November and December—amounted to $33,667,438, as compared with a total of $45,270,431 for the third quarter. The "big money" was earned in the first nine months of 1919.

Many stockholders are dissatisfied because the trust's board of directors have not declared an extra dividend, and thus divide these immense profits that have been sweated out of thousands of unorganized workers.

Drive For Less Textile Hours; Miners Guarded From Visitors

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 8.—A drive for reduction of hours of textile workers and abolition of night work for mill women and children emphasize the value of organization to these workers, said Paul R. Smith, A. F. of L. representative in charge of the southern headquarters in this city.

The work rule in most mills is 10 to 12 hours a day and in some instances 14 hours. Mr. Smith said humane employers would probably adopt the eight-hour plan.

Another lesson on the value of trade unionism is shown in wage reductions by a non-union coal company at Dora, this State.

"This concern," said Mr. Smith, "is dismissing miners who had any part in the recent Alabama coal strike. The company owns the highways leading to the mines and has notified business men that deliveries of any kind will not be permitted to the homes of miners unless the bearer has a permit signed by the company. This means that the miners must trade at the company store. Under this system an added wage reduction is possible by charging higher prices.

"The company negotiates air-tight leases with tenant miners who are forced to occupy company houses. The lease enumerates the number in each family and who they are. Only those named in the lease are permitted to go on the property. In other words the miner and his family are not permitted to have visitors at any time without the employer's approval. Thus the paternal employer keeps an eye on his slave. It is the same surveillance employed in West Virginia until the United Mine Workers destroyed the system.

"It is these un-American policies that the A. F. of L. seeks to abolish. These conditions not only prevail in many coal districts but among other unorganized workers."

NO WORK IN DETROIT; SITUATION IS ACUTE

Detroit, Feb. 8.—A harrowing tale of suffering in this city because of unemployment is told by Mrs. Edward J. Jeffries, commissioner Public Welfare Department. She and other social workers reject the claim that employment is on the up grade.

Anti-union elements have maintained a steady advertising campaign in this center of the automobile industry, which now finds itself confronted by an army of unemployed who must be cared for by the municipality.

"Never in the history of this department," said Mrs. Jeffries, "have conditions been as they are at present, and each day sees the situation grow worse. No future improvement can be visualized. In December we cared for 10,000 families and our total for January is far in excess of 14,000. Every available hospital space is crowded to the very limit and more than 600 of our patients have had to be placed in private institutions.

"This unemployment is no respector of classes. Persons who never dreamed that they would have to apply to us for aid have been forced to make requests."

Mrs. Jeffries' estimate is indorsed by Zalie B. Clago, State Superintendent of Private Employment Bureaus.

"In the 35 years that I have been in Detroit, serving in various public offices," he said, "I have never seen conditions as they are at present."

HOSIERY WORKERS JAILED BY JUDGE

Philadelphia, Feb. 8.—Injunction Judge McDevitt has placed his court at the disposal of the H. C. Aberle Hosiery Company to break the spirit of 1,400 workers who are resisting a wage cut of from 13 to 33 per cent. A large percentage of the strikers are women and girls. They are affiliated to the Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers, a unit of the United Textile Workers.

Strikers are arrested and jailed on the slightest pretext. In one case four unionists were denied bail on the ground that they violated a former injunction. When the judge discovered his position could not be sustained, he announced that he was sitting as a court of law and committed the four unionists on breach-of-peace charges and placed them under $1,000 bonds.

The strikers have informed the judge that they will not be intimidated. They ask no favors, but resent this attempt to make the judiciary a strike breaking adjunct.

NEW IMMIGRATION LAW WOULD CHECK MEXICANS

Washington, Feb. 8.—The "conscious employment" of an alien who has illegally entered the United States is prohibited in a bill introduced by Congressman Patman of Texas.

"Our government," said Mr. Patman, "is telling farmers to avoid over-production, but permits Mexicans and other immigrants to come into this country without restriction as to number to engage in agricultural pursuits and to take the jobs of American laborers who must turn to the farm as a means of supporting themselves and their families."

Employment agencies, it is claimed, persuade Mexicans to enter the United States for railroad construction work. The construction companies do not pay the agents a fee for their services, but give them what is known as "commissary rights" of the gang, a system that is closely related to peonage.

CHARITY ON INCREASE

New York, Feb. 8.—Public and private charities in 75 representative cities spent $3,426,000 to aid 145,350 families during December, the Russell Sage Foundation reports. This is an increase of 23 per cent over the previous month. Extensive unemployment and severe cold weather are blamed.

The Foundation indicates that December relief probably was larger than for any previous month. Among the cities showing greatest relief expenditures were the industrial cities of Detroit, Akron and St. Louis.

O. K. POLITICAL LEAGUE

Portland, Ore., Feb. 8.—The Central Labor Council approved the formation of a separate organization to handle political affairs of organized labor. The plan was proposed by Ben Osborne, secretary State Federation of Labor, who points out that unions are often engaged with industrial issues and that a unified political program is impossible.

PROFITS DOUBLE IN EIGHT YEARS; WAGES GAIN LESS THAN ONE-FIFTH

Washington, Feb. 8.—"Enormous increases" in profits during the past eight years are reported by the A. F. of L. in its "Monthly Survey of Business" for current month. These profits, it is declared, "show that American firms have the means to raise wages."

The profits are exclusive of taxes, wages, depreciation and other fixed charges.

From 1922 to 1929 the combined profits of all corporations in the United States nearly doubled. Corporation profits, after taxes, wages and all other expenses were paid, total $5,183,000,000 in 1922 and $7,538,000,000 in 1927 (U. S. Treasury reports), $9,900,000,000 in 1929 (estimate by David Friday). The 1929 estimate is 91 per cent above 1922.

During this period wages of workers in manufacturing increased but 19 per cent. In railroads the figures are much less.

"The large profits left after wages and other expenses were paid have made possible enormous increases in dividend payments to stockholders," the Monthly Survey declares. "In eight years dividends have more than doubled. Total dividends paid in 1922 were $3,436,00,000, in 1927 they were $6,423,000,000 (U. S. Treasury reports) and in 1929 about $8,000,000,000 (estimate by David Friday), an increase of 133 per cent. In 1929 dividends increased 30 per cent over 1928 and earnings were 2 per cent higher."

MEXICAN CHEAP LABOR FAVORED IN SOUTHWEST

El Paso, Texas, Feb. 8.—Editor William J. Moran of the El Paso Labor Advocate continues his opposition to Mexican immigration in the Southwest, which is favored by large employers and landed interests. These forces have rushed a strong lobby to Washington to protest against a bill introduced by Congressman Box of this State.

The lobby is raising the old cry that "cheap" labor is necessary.

Government reports, said Editor Moran, prove that these employers can pay a living wage to white workers.

"If the 'cheap labor' plea were true, China ought to be the most prosperous nation in the world," said the labor editor. "If cheap labor brought industries, then the border from San Diego to Point Isabel would be crowded with manufacturing plants.

"Beet sugar labor in the fields was performed by white labor until the World War. Thousands of miles of railroad have only white men on their track gangs in many parts of the country. The most successful grower of cotton is the east Texas farmer, who cultivates the land that he and his family can give attention with reasonable neighbor help—all white.

"No one would advocate harm to any industry, but all necessary labor may be had by applying just a little energy in connection with the jobless man and the manless job."

INJUNCTION REFUSED TO DO POLICE WORK

Chicago, Feb. 8.—Superior Court Judge William J. Lindsay refused to enjoin striking millinery workers, who were charged with violence. The court said the police, not an equity court, should enforce law.

The unionists charge that police are violators of law as several pickets have been knocked down by "guardians" of the law, who seem especially interested in aiding employers.

BARBERS' STRIKE ENDS

Madison, Wis., Feb. 8.—Organized barbers compromised their nine-days' strike. Wages will be $25 a week and a guarantee of 65 per cent of receipts over $38. All strikers will be reinstated. This is the first time barbers were guaranteed a specific wage.

CIGARETTE PROFITS BREAK ALL RECORDS

Winston-Salem, N. C., Feb. 8.—R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company profits last year totaled $32,210,000, as compared with $29,080,000 the previous year.

These profits are built on the enormous sales of "Camel" cigarettes and "Prince Albert" smoking tobacco. The net earnings are reported after every conceivable device can conceal profits. These include deduction of "all charges and expenses of management," and provision for interest, taxes, depreciation, advertising, etc.

Wages paid by this concern are among the lowest in the South. Rates range from $7 to $11 a week with a maximum of 48 cents an hour. One-half of the employes are Negroes.

Unionism is not tolerated, and spies abound in the plant, with speed-up systems a feature of production.

Farmers in eastern North Carolina who supply raw material for the Reynolds Company are exploited as mercilessly as are the workers.

EMPLOYERS REGULATE CANADIAN FISHERMEN

Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 8.—Trade unionists join with fishermen in a protest against regulations which empower employers to decide who shall be permitted to fish in the deep seas.

Fishermen can only dispose of their catch to the cannery to which they are attached by legislation, while cannery interests are allowed to truck and trade in the fishermen's catch.

The Provincial Government permits the Canadian Manufacturers' Association to set up committees to pass upon regulations where the interests of fishermen are concerned.

Under the proposed regulations more than 2,000 workers will be controlled by employers, who can deprive of their livelihood any one who objects to this system of price fixing and one-sided control of the seas.

PRINTERS RAISE WAGES

Minneapolis, Feb. 8.—A wage increase of $3 a week and a three-year agreement have been secured by newspaper printers. The pay increase dates back to June 1 last. New rates are $50 a week for day work and $53 for night work.

PLUMBERS RAISE WAGES

Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 8.—Organized plumbers raised wages to $10 a day. They secured the five-day week more than four years ago.

Mergers Make Individuals Helpless; Negro Workers Urged To Join AFL

Chicago, Feb. 8.—"On behalf of the American Federation of Labor I bid you come on the inside," said John Fitzpatrick, president Chicago Federation of Labor, who represented President Green of the A. F. of L. at the National Negro Labor Conference in this city.

In a message to the conference President Green declared that "real independence comes only with increased material progress" and that "no greater stumbling block can be put in the pathway of Negro progress than efforts to poison their minds with doubt" as to the good faith of the A. F. of L.

A. Philip Randolph, representative organized sleeping car porters, affiliated to A. F. of L., declared that an individual worker, regardless of his color, creed or political views, is helpless against great mergers and combinations of capital. He said the proposed nation-wide merger of railroads would turn 175,000 workers into the streets jobless.

Replying to the charge that there is prejudice in the A. F. of L. against Negro workers, the colored trade unionist said:

"It is reasonable that white workers would have prejudice against the Negro worker when they have seen them mobilized as strike breakers. If the Negro stays out of everything in which there is prejudice where would he be today. We would have to get off the earth. The A. F. of L. cannot make a trade union suit for the Negro worker." The speaker emphasized President Fitzpatrick's statement that the A. F. of L. cannot organize any group of workers if these workers are unwilling to be organized.

Caswell Cook, probation officer of Cook county, connected unemployment with crime. "A man repeatedly denied employment and returning night after night to an unheated home with wife and little ones for whom he cannot provide, is a very likely recruit for the criminal class," said Mr. Cook.

Other speakers included Miss Mary Anderson, director United States Women's Bureau; Dr. Herbert L. Willett, University of Chicago; Spencer Miller, Jr., secretary Workers' Education Bureau; Oscar F. Nelson, vice president Chicago Federation of Labor, and Charles Armstrong, United Mine Workers of America.

CIGAR TRUST UNIT HOSTILE TO UNION

Washington, Feb. 8.—President Green notifies A. F. of L. affiliates that the General Cigar Company refuses to change its hostile attitude toward organized cigarmakers. The company is a unit of the cigar trust and manufactures the Robert Burns, William Penn, Van Dyke, Chesterfield and White Owl cigars. Wage cuts were enforced in 1929 and a long strike ensued, although the company doubled its income and greatly increased dividends.

At the Toronto convention of the A. F. of L. the Executive Council was authorized to aid the cigarmakers in securing an adjustment. A special representative of the A. F. of L. reported to President Green that the company insists on the anti-union shop and will only deal with individual workers. The old claim of unionists "creating discontent" is made, although the recent strike of non-unionists is ignored.

The offices of the company are located at 119 West 40th Street, New York City, and President Green suggests that unionists ask these officials that they "assume an attitude toward their employes in keeping with the advanced thought of this period."

The company enforced its wage cut on unorganized girls and the Cigarmakers' Union took up the fight. Injunctions and other strike breaking methods were used against the victimized girls, who were driven back to work after three months of hardship.

MORE MILLIONAIRES; 40 PER CENT GAIN IN 1928

Washington, Feb. 8.—Preliminary figures on income taxes paid last year, made public by the Bureau of Internal Revenue, disclose that the number of persons paying taxes on annual incomes of $1,000,000 or more in 1928 was nearly twice that of 1927. This is a gain of 40 per cent.

The bureau's figures, based on collections for the eight months ending August 31, 1929, listed 496 in the million or more class as against 290 in the year before.

The reports show that 4,050,959 individuals made returns, and that the income of 1,616,319 were so low that they did not come within the taxable list.

EQUITY ORDER IS EASY

Washington, Feb. 8.—The Department of Justice has abandoned grand jury proceedings against several oil companies on the Pacific Coast who are charged with price-fixing agreements.

The department will file suits in equity "in order to have a broader field of action against the concerns." If the concerns were indicted by a grand jury they could secure jury trials, but it is easier to secure a sweeping order from an injunction judge than get a verdict from 12 men.

WOMEN PAID LOW WAGE

New York, Feb. 8.—Low wages of working women affect the buying power of one-quarter of the nation's feminine population, said Miss Frances Perkins, State Industrial Commissioner.

The danger of new poisonous substances in industrial plants was stressed by Miss Perkins, who urged that companies be compelled to adopt proper protective measures.

HOSTILE EMPLOYERS TO PAY UNION RATES

Minneapolis, Feb. 8.—"Trade unionism leads; all others follow" was verified by the Minnesota Building Employers' Association at their annual convention in this city when they agreed to raise wages to approximate the union rate.

These employers, nine years ago, declared for the anti-union shop and enforced a general wage cut. This precipitated a continuous struggle that has demoralized the industry.

The employers' change of front is due to the persistence of organized building tradesmen who demand a voice in working conditions and wage scales.

The unionists will use the employers' attitude as vindication of organized labor. The new rates can be taken from non-unionists whenever paternal employers are so disposed.

HUSBANDS' LOW WAGES FORCE WIVES TO LABOR

Washington, Feb. 8.—Nine-tenths of married women work because their husbands either make an insufficient wage or because the husband had ceased to contribute because of divorce, separation or other causes, according to the United States Women's Bureau.

Almost three-fourths of the women whose husbands contributed to their support said they were applying for work because of economic necessity.

"Do women with husbands to support them take jobs from single women in need of work?" the department's statement sets forth. "The vociferous volume of affirmative public opinion has been given a staggering blow. The survey shows that over two-thirds of the women included in the investigation stated they were without a husband's support."

SOUTH CAROLINA URGED TO PASS COMPENSATION

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 8.—"Workmen's compensation is not a thing separate and apart from industrial development," said Charles Gordon Smith, manager New York State Insurance Fund, in an address to a joint session of the South Carolina legislature. Mr. Smith was invited by a concurrent resolution to address the two houses.

"South Carolina is on the eve of great industrial development," said the New Yorker. "With industries come labor problems—and one of the largest problems of labor is industrial accidents and the relief for victims of these accidents. Such compensation has been tried in 44 States. It is not a plan for taking from some and giving to others. No State which has ever tried it has later abolished it."

Mississippi, Florida, Arkansas and this State are the only ones that have no compensation law, said Mr. Smith.

OIL MEN CUT OUTPUT; WORKERS CAN'T CHANGE

Dallas, Texas, Feb. 8.—Edward T. Moore, president Midcontinent Oil and Gas Association, called a meeting of operators to limit output, and the Dallas Craftsmen says:

"Mr. Moore considers it proper to cut down the running time per day in order to maintain prices and conserve his supply, but it is wrong for employes in oil fields and refiners to reduce their 12-hour day and seven-day week."

JOHN N. PARSONS DEAD

New York, Feb. 8.—John N. Parsons, president National Association of Letter Carriers from 1896 to 1901, died in this city. He was 73. During the days when postal workers met secretly Parsons was active in the Knights of Labor and served as General Master Workman of that organization. At the time of his death he was supervisor motor vehicle service of the local post office.

NEW UNION RAISES WAGE

Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 8.—The Sign Writers' Union, organized last year, secured a union shop agreement and raised wages 10 per cent, beginning April 1.

IDLE GROUP GROWS IN JANUARY; BUILDING TRADES HIT HARDEST

Washington, Feb. 8.—"Unemployment increased in January, according to reports from trade unions to the A. F. of L.," said President Green in a statement concerning unemployment during the first two weeks in January.

"Our figures show 19 per cent of union members unemployed during the first two weeks," said Mr. Green. "This is a substantial increase over December, when 16 per cent were idle. The January figures is the highest percentage of unemployment since the A. F. of L. began collecting statistics in 1927. In January, 1928, when unemployment reached serious proportions and caused public concern in many cities, our figures showed 18 per cent of the membership out of work, as compared with 19 per cent this year.

"This report covers 640,000 members in 24 cities. A large variety of trades is included.

"The highest percentage of unemployed is in the building trades, where 38 per cent were idle. This is a higher figure than in January, 1928, when 36 per cent were unemployed and substantially higher than January, 1929, when 30 per cent were out of work. In metal trades 14 per cent were out of work, compared to 8 per cent in January, 1929, and 11 per cent in December.

"Unemployment is especially high among musicians because of radio and the vitaphone. Unemployment is increased by seasonal industries which in some cases are in worse condition than usual."

SENATOR WOULD CHECK MONOPOLY IN PATENTS

Washington, Feb. 8.—A bill introduced in the Senate by Mr. Dill provides that it shall be a complete defense in any suit for infringement of a patent to prove that the complainant is party to any combination which tends to lessen competition and to create a monopoly.

Should this bill pass, the Senator explained, small manufacturers who have brought complaints against the Radio Corporation of America (radio trust) in regard to their patent monopolies and the resultant lessening of competition will have an opportunity to press their claims. If the charges are found to be true, he said, according to the terms of the bill these patent rights shall be removed until the combination is broken. If the charges cannot be supported the Radio Corporation has nothing to fear and their rights will be restored, said the Senator.

EUROPEAN AUTO PLANTS GRABBED BY AMERICANS

New York, Feb. 8.—General Motors Corporation has control of the two largest auto plants in France. Similar action has been taken in Germany and England.

Mass production systems and American sales methods will be introduced in these countries, which will build their own autos, rather than be a market for the American output. This policy will reduce the market abroad for American-made autos and lessen output in this country because increased foreign demand can be supplied at home.

General Motors, it is stated, has a different policy from Ford, who erected assembling plants abroad. High tariff walls are liable to prohibit entry of Ford's material into these countries, which will be dominated by his outstanding rival.

PHOTO ENGRAVERS GAIN

New York, Feb. 8.—A $5 weekly increase that will run through a three-year agreement has been secured by organized newspaper photo engravers. A $2 increase will be paid the first year, $1 the second and $2 the third year.

COAL TEAMSTERS WIN

Chicago, Feb. 8.—Organized coal teamsters and helpers raised wages 40 cents a day, and waiting time is paid for. The new rate is $8 and $8.10 for the former and $6.10 and $6.50 for helpers. Shovelers are advanced from 10 to 15 cents a ton.

TWO COAL POLICEMEN CONVICTED BY JURY

Franklin, Pa., Feb. 8.—Walter J. Lyster, former lieutenant, and Harold P. Watts, former private, of the anti-union Pittsburgh Coal Company's private police, were found guilty of manslaughter in the killing of John Barcoski, a miner, on February 10, 1929. Frank Slapikis, the third defendant, was acquitted.

A Pittsburgh jury, in September, last, found the three men not guilty of murdering Barcoski. They were then accused of involuntary manslaughter and the trial was transferred to this county because of popular resentment against them in Allegheny county (Pittsburgh).

At both trials it was testified that the three policemen arrested Barcoski at a friend's house, took him to their barracks, kept him there four hours, then took him to a hospital where he died from a crushed chest. Witnesses testified that the miner was blackjacked and beaten with a poker.

The miner's death aroused the State against private-owned coal and iron police. The legislature responded to this sentiment and passed a law which limited their jurisdiction to property owned by the coal and steel companies. This bill was vetoed by Governor Fisher, who signed a bill that the corporations favor.

COLORADO WORK WOMEN NOT PAID LIVING WAGE

Denver, Feb. 8.—"A majority of women employed in industry in this State are compelled to work for an insufficient wage," declared the State Federation of Labor's Executive Board.

A general probe of women's wages as a preliminary to the establishment of an effective minimum wage law, was urged.

The unionists charged the State Industrial Commission with failure to enforce the present law, which specifically declares that "it shall be unlawful to employ women in any occupation within the State for wages which are inadequate to supply the necessary cost of living and to maintain in health the women so employed."

The Executive Board called for enforcement of the old-age pension law, passed in 1927, and which is optional with county commissioners. The law has not been placed in operation in a single county in the State.

TEXTILE STRIKERS FIRM

Marion, N. C., Feb. 8.—Textile workers here appeal to organized labor and sympathizers not to believe stories that are whispered by employers' propagandists that the local strike is at an end. More than 1,000 strikers and their families are on the relief roll. They live in East Marion, just outside the corporate limits of Marion.

The power of reaction and prejudice is so strong here that it is impossible to buy records of mountain ballads recently reproduced by a phonograph company.

CITY CAN "BUY" HEALTH

New York, Feb. 8.—This city can "buy" health if it appropriates sufficient funds, declared Health Commissioner Wynne in an address in this city. He asserted that the average span of life could be increased by 14 years if every preventive method were used.

The minimum salary for a physician in the Department of Health, Dr. Wynne said, is $1,320 a year. A doctor who works for that salary, he added, "must either be a philanthropist or incompetent."

PEONAGE IN PENNSYLVANIA ENFORCED BY 'YELLOW DOG'

Nazareth, Pa., Feb. 8—Peonage enforced by an injunction judge and the "yellow dog" are accepted by strike breakers at the Kraemer Hosiery Company's plant.

Every strike breaker must sign the "yellow dog." Under this alleged "contract" the company owns the worker as surely as the black man was owned before the Civil War.

As the black man's owner was aided by every power of government, so the Kraemer Company is supported by equity.

The "peonage" section of the "yellow dog" provides:

"Said employe further agrees that he will not at any time while in the employe of said employer or within one year thereafter, either for himself or any other person or persons, company or corporation either directly or indirectly engage in similar work to that of his said employment within a radius of one hundred (100) miles from Nazareth, Pa., nor shall he accept similar employment whether the same be direct or indirect from any person or persons, company or corporation engaged in the business of full fashioned hosiery."

The "yellow dog" also provides that in addition to any legal remedies for violations "or attempted threatened violations" of this document, "the same shall be restrainable by injunction at the suit of the employer, its successor and assigns."

This means that if the strike breaker accepts employment elsewhere he agrees that the company, or its successors, may secure a court order and drive him back to the Kraemer plant.